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Message Text

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15
ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 COME-00 USIA-06 OPR-02 EB-07 /027 W
---------- 056949
R 141030Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 040

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINSHASA 8592

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, OTRA, BTRA, CG
SUBJECT: VISIT TUMBA TUNKADI

1. THE DEPARTMENT'S AND COMMERCE'S ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THE IMPENDING VISIT TO WASHINGTON OF TUMBA TUNKADI, DIRECTOR OF FIKIN AND ANEZA. HE NOW SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON OCT 21. EMB WISHES TO REINFORCE EARLIER SUGGESTION MADE THROUGH USIS CHANNELS THAT HE BE RECEIVED AT THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVELS.

2. ALTHOUGH HEADING TWO ORGANIZATIONS OSTENSIBLY OUTSIDE THE MAIN CHANNELS OF POWER IN ZAIRE, TUMBA IS, NEVERTHELESS, A HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL MAN WHO MANDATE UNDER THE MOST RECENT STABILIZATION COMMITTEE'S DECISION WILL BE CONSIDERABLY WIDENED. HE WAS A KNOWN (IF DISCREET) CHAMPION OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN THE HEYDAY OF ZAIRIANIZATION/RADICALIZATION PERIOD. HE ALSO REMAINED AN OPENLY AVAILABLE FRIEND TO THE EMBASSY DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE "COUP MONTE ET MANQUE" PERIOD LAST YEAR. TUMBA IS MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN ZAIRE AND HE CAN WELL SUPPLY USEFUL INSIGHTS ON THE LOCAL SITUATION ONCE AWAY FROM LOCAL CONSTRAINTS. ADDITIONALLY, AS INDICATED ABOVE, HE WILL LIKELY PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN ZAIRE'S EFFORTS TO CREATE A MIXED ECONOMY WITH THE MAJOR ROLE GOING TO PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. SINCE THE U.S. OBVIOUSLY HAS A STAKE IN THE SUCCESS OF THIS ENDEAVOR, AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON POSSIBLE FUTURE COOPERATION IN THIS AREA WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL.

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3. TUMBA WILL ALSO BE SEEKING OUT WAYS TO INTEREST THE U.S.

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BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN ZAIRE, EITHER AS A TRADING PARTNER OR
INVESTOR. WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER ASSISTANCE COMMERCE AND
THE DEPT CAN RENDER TOWARD THIS END. TUMBA IS NOT CONVERSANT
IN ENGLISH AND WOULD NEED AN INTERPRETER.
CUTLER

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To: STATE
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